

Congress of the United States :

AT THE THIRD SESSION,

Begun and held at the city of Philadelphia, on
Monday the sixth of December, one thousand seven hundred and ninety.

RESOLVED *by the SENATE and HOUSE of REPRESENTATIVES of the United States of America in Congress assembled*, That the President of the United States be requested to cause to be communicated to the National Assembly of France the peculiar sensibility of Congress to the tribute paid to the memory of Benjamin Franklin, by the enlightened and free representatives of a great nation, in their decree of the eleventh of June, one thousand seven hundred and ninety.

FREDERICK AUGUSTUS MUHLENBERG,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

JOHN ADAMS, *Vice-President of the United States,*
and President of the Senate.

APPROVED, March the second, 1791.

GEORGE WASHINGTON, *President of the United States.*

The Thanks of the Congress of the United States to the French Nation (1791)

An original broadside in which the Congress of the United States officially thanked "the enlightened and free representatives of a great nation" for the tribute paid to the memory of Dr. Franklin by the National Assembly. By this action Congress itself rendered indirect and belated tribute to one of the greatest of all Americans. It was a matter of embarrassment to many Americans of the time that, although the French Government had decreed official mourning for Franklin, The U. S. Congress had not.

Lent to The Freedom Train by Mr. Frederic R. Kirkland